

is the nodal agency for posing these projects to the external donor agencies. DEA views the proposal for its viability and matches the project with donors' spectral preferences, and approaches the appropriate donor for funding the project.

#### **Smuggling of Arecanut**

661. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of arecanut through Nepal and also import of arecanut in the name of dry fruits which affect adversely the Indian growers mainly from Kerala, Karnataka and Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to check smuggling of arecanut and to protect the interest of the growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Available reports indicate some incidence of smuggling of arecanut (Betelnut) from Nepal to India. The details of seizure of arecanut attempted to be smuggled are furnished below:

Year	Value of seizure (Rs. in lac)
1994-95	16.14
1995-96	54.74
1996-97	41.69

There are however no reports to indicate import of arecanut in the guise of dry fruits.

(c) Anti Smuggling agencies are on high alert to prevent and detect any smuggling including smuggling of arecanut. Specific measures taken include greater surveillance & targetting of intelligence on the areas vulnerable to smuggling such as the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh border.

#### **All India Judicial Service**

662. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has strongly opposed the proposal of the Union Government for the constitution of an All-India Judicial Service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the other States so far opposed this move and the States which have approved the proposal; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) :

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has opposed the creation of All India Judicial Service which may not serve interests of an efficient administration of justice due to regional and language variations in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, J & K, Karnataka, Manipur and Nagaland have also not favoured the setting up of an All India Judicial Service. The State Governments of Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Mizoram, Punjab, Kerala, Tripura, Sikkim, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have concurred to the setting up of an AIJS. The Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Assam and Rajasthan have given conditional endorsement to the proposal.

(d) In pursuance of a direction of Supreme Court of India in the All India Judges Association Case (Writ Petition No. 1022/89), the Government is already seized of the matter relating to creation of an All India Judicial Service. Secondly, comments from two States are awaited.

#### **Agricultural Export**

663. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :  
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :  
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have removed export curbs on groundnut and Sesamum besides realising the export quota of 5000 tonnes for milk powder;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these two items have been declared freely exportable during 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the guidelines issued by the Government to restrict the misuse of these two items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Vide Policy Circular No. 9/97-98 dated 14th July, 1997 and the Policy Circular No. 14/97-98 dated 30th July, 1997, the Government has permitted free export of HPS groundnut and sesamum (sesame seeds) without any quantitative restrictions during the current licensing year, 1997-98. Similarly vide Policy

Circular No. 16/97-98, the Government has permitted export of 5000 MTs of powder milk.

The export of HPS-Groundnut and sesame seeds have been permitted freely during the current licensing year 1997-98, keeping in view their availability and the exports made during the preceeding years.

Further as per the Policy Circular No. 14/97-98 dated 30th July, 1997, exporters are also required to furnish a statement regarding the quantity of sesame seed exported alongwith the copy of shipping bills within 30 days from the date of export.

#### Presumptive Tax Scheme

664. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH  
GAEKWARD :  
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme for presumptive tax involving payment of Rs. 1400 per annum as tax from small entrepreneurs and professionals was an utter failure;

(b) if so, the actual collections made during the respective years, as compared to the estimated expected figure; and

(c) whether the main reasons for failure of the scheme was lack of will on the part of collection of taxes and collusion between tax payers and collector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The statistics of number of persons opting for the Presumptive Tax Scheme suggest that the scheme did not yield the desired results.

(b) The statistics relating to the number of forms received and tax collections under the Presumptive Tax Scheme during the period 1992-93 to 1996-97 are as under:

Financial Year	No. of Forms under PTS	Collection under PTS
(Rupees in crores)		
1992-93	1,16,644	16.47
1993-94	1,95,600	27.53
1994-95	3,56,322	49.96
1995-96	2,51,824	35.39
1996-97	1,58,733	22.73

No separate targets were fixed for tax collection under the scheme.

(c) No Sir.

[Translation]

#### Export/Import Growth of STC/MMTC

665. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the export/import growth of STC/MMTC during the Seventh and Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the new proposals to make STC/MMTC more competitive as a Trading House of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) Year-wise export/import turnover of STC/MMTC during the 7th and 8th Plan period are as follows:—

(Rupees in crores)

Year	STC		MMTC	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
<b>7th Plan</b>				
1985-86	378	2158	622.6	2367.1
1986-87	542	2179	711.7	2037.4
1987-88	581	3037	728.4	2118.7
1988-89	530	2045	872.6	2971.4
1989-90	752	1070	1148.3	3914.5
<b>8th Plan</b>				
1992-93	551	324	1674.9	3368.4
1993-94	798	239	1371.3	1699.3
1994-95	806	965	1368.3	3662.1
1995-96	749	858	1375.6	4450.8
1996-97	513	1896	1336.6	3406.9

(b) consequent upon the decanalisation of import and export of items earlier canalised through STC and MMTC, both the Corporations have made an endeavour to reorient its trading activities in a manner consistent with the